

Supporting and enhancing economic opportunities and self-empowerment for families and communities

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V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

Supporting and enhancing economic opportunities and self-empowerment for families and communities

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources			15%	15%
134	Outdoor Recreation			3%	3%
802	Human Development and Family Well-Being			25%	25%
803	Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families and Communities			19%	19%
804	Human Environmental Issues Concerning Apparel, Textiles, and Residential and Commercial Structures			8%	8%
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services			11%	11%
806	Youth Development			19%	19%
	Total			100%	100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2008	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	0.0	5.8	8.8
Actual	0.0	0.0	7.0	8.8

2. Institution Name: Alabama A&M University

Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	0	0	0
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	0	0	0
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

2. Institution Name: Auburn University

Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c 0	1890 Extension 0	Hatch 465464	Evans-Allen 0
1862 Matching 0	1890 Matching 0	1862 Matching 465464	1890 Matching 0
1862 All Other 0	1890 All Other 0	1862 All Other 0	1890 All Other 0

2. Institution Name: Tuskegee University**Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)**

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c 0	1890 Extension 0	Hatch 0	Evans-Allen 607435
1862 Matching 0	1890 Matching 0	1862 Matching 0	1890 Matching 607435
1862 All Other 0	1890 All Other 0	1862 All Other 0	1890 All Other 0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

Research has assessed such things as the impact of technological and sociological changes on family and communities, family interactions on success of youth, and the availability and accessibility of health and social services to rural families and communities. Research results are shared with extension personnel for further dissemination, particularly to community leaders and educators and through leadership training. Additional dissemination of results are through direct contact (such as at school and community meetings), publications (experiment station bulletins, on-line reports, press releases, as well as scientific journal articles), and may include non-traditional efforts, such as working through community and faith-based groups.

Alabama is 45% rural. The rural Black Belt counties of Alabama pose a unique challenge for the land grant system due to the demographic, social, and economic distinction of the region. The well being and societal contributions of this population hinges on having viable communities, businesses and economies. This viability becomes significantly important in rural communities where the majority of the residents are poor. Research at Tuskegee University continues to focus on the assessment of the current measures for economic growth, equity issues and quality of life indicators as elements of sustainable rural development in the Black Belt of Alabama.

At Auburn University, research is being conducted on natural resource and environmental issues that affect the economic opportunities and quality of life in rural areas of Alabama. Another major research area is in the identification of issues that affect marriages and families in Alabama and to better understand the patterns of consistency and change in marriages.

Research at Alabama A & M University has been designed to ascertain the impact of technology and sustainable agriculture practices on the well being of farmers, particularly small and medium sized farms in Alabama.

Investigations at Tuskegee University focused on critical factors necessary for sustainable rural community development including those that apply to resource development (e.g., land loss and retention), economic development (e.g., small business and micro enterprises), and socio political development (e.g., access and equity issues). Sustainability of related farm and other small business operations depends on factors and program or policy initiatives that are undertaken by governments (federal, state and local), community based organizations and engaged institutions such as Tuskegee University. Our programs have led to the development of the farmers markets in Tuskegee and Selma becoming more sustainable, with more produce being sold and receipts reported. There were 11 micro loans secured from out of state financial institutions through the SBA Community Express Program as well as 3 farm ownership loans, 17 operating loans, 7 equipment loans, 13 housing loans and 9 livestock loans.

Research at Auburn University is evaluating the unique needs and opportunities associated with timberland owners of 50 acres and less. Appropriate harvesting and wood processing technologies were identified to meet the needs of owners of small timberland tracts, and local farmers, in order that they might sell timber and enhance their economic status.

The Black Belt region in west Alabama is under very serious economic challenges due to strong international competition of imported catfish with the domestic catfish industry. Auburn University researchers are seeking alternative species for aquaculture to address the stiff competition. Bull minnows proved to be a viable alternative species for culture in low salinity water sources of the Alabama Black Belt. They reproduced successfully in several water sources, grew at acceptable rates and could be transported without difficulty. Market studies showed an unfulfilled demand that possibly can be met by production in the Alabama Black Belt.

Working with high schools through Alabama, Auburn University researchers developed and implemented a curriculum ("Relationship Smarts") that addresses healthy relationship development. Results indicate that the adolescents who participated in the curriculum developed more accurate and realistic attitudes about dating relationships, and felt that they had gained skills in communicating and managing conflict in dating relationships.

2. Brief description of the target audience

Extension personnel, community leaders, educators, 4H, youth centers.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	1100	33000	900	3300
2008	1500	40000	1000	5000

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2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
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Plan:	0
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2008:	0
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Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan	0	5	
2008	0	8	8

V(F). State Defined Outputs

Output Target

Output #1

Output Measure

publications

Year	Target	Actual
2008	6	8

V(G). State Defined Outcomes

O No.	Outcome Name
1	High school graduation rate (88.8% AL Dept. Educ. 2004-2005, from drop-out rate = 11.18%). Improvements in community and family integrity should increase this (medium term outcome).
2	Educational attainment (post secondary) (AL Dept Educ., Fall 2005, 55.8% of all high school graduates were enrolled in AL colleges). Success of this program should increase this (long-term outcome).
3	The number of small businesses should increase with success of this program. In 2001, US Bureau of Labor states that 229.7 (in thousands) 'non-employer' firms were existent in AL (medium term outcome).
4	AL Dept. Health notes that 4 of Alabama's 67 counties have fewer than 3 physicians per 10,000 residents. Success of this program should increase this (medium term outcome).

Outcome #1

1. Outcome Measures

Not reporting on this Outcome for this Annual Report

2. Associated Institution Types

3a. Outcome Type:

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
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3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

What has been done

Results

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
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V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)

Economy

Public Policy changes

Government Regulations

Competing Public priorities

Brief Explanation

Climate change and soaring energy costs have had a major impact on the rural economy and self empowerment, families, and rural communities.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

Retrospective (post program)

During (during program)

Evaluation Results

Satisfactory results were achieved.

Key Items of Evaluation